



**NORTHWEST TERRITORIES  
LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY**

**3rd Session**

**Day 1**

**12<sup>th</sup> Assembly**

**HANSARD**

**TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 17, 1992**

Pages 1 - 8

Page numbers reflect printed Hansard

**The Honourable Michael A. Ballantyne, Speaker**

**MEMBERS PRESENT**

Hon. Titus Allooloo, Mr. Antoine, Mr. Arngna'naaq, Hon. James Arvaluk, Hon. Michael Ballantyne, Mr. Bernhardt, Hon. Nellie Cournoyea, Mr. Dent, Mr. Gargan, Hon. Stephen Kakfwi, Mr. Koe, Mr. Lewis, Mrs. Marie-Jewell, Ms. Mike, Hon. Don Morin, Mr. Nerysoo, Mr. Ningark, Hon. Dennis Patterson, Hon. John Pollard, Mr. Pudlat, Mr. Todd, Hon. Tony Whitford, Mr. Zoe

**SPEAKER (Hon. Michael Ballantyne):**

I would call upon Reverend Willy Chidowe to lead us in prayer which will be followed by a drum prayer.

**ITEM 1: PRAYER**

**CHAPLAIN WILLIAM CHIDOWE:**

Thank you so much for bringing all the Members here safely. Lord, we are so thankful for the blessings that you have given us. One of those blessings is to live in a country such as ours where we have the choice, Lord, to elect Members to represent us. We ask you now, Lord, to be with each Member as they lead and guide this government, Lord, that they might do it in a way which will bring pride to the people who have elected them. Help them, Lord, to deal with one another in a fair way. Lord, please be with our Government Leader and her Cabinet as they make decisions that are going to affect people in this territory of ours. Lord, we know there are so many people who are going to be affected by the decisions that will be made. Lord, may they be fair. Watch over and guide each Member, and for them we pray. Amen.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Thank you. Please be seated. Mr. Clerk, would you ascertain if his honour, the Commissioner of the Northwest Territories is prepared to address the Assembly.

**COMMISSIONER NORRIS:**

Ladies and gentlemen, please be seated. Mr. Speaker, and Members of the Legislative Assembly, it is my pleasure to welcome you to the 3rd Session of the 12th Legislative Assembly of the Northwest Territories. During the session your government will be presenting its capital estimates for 1993-94 and other legislation including Appropriation Act, No. 1,

1993-94; A Payroll Tax Act; An Act to Amend the Income Tax Act; Supplementary Appropriation Act, No. 4, 1991-92; and Supplementary Appropriation Act, No. 3, 1992-93.

Mr. Speaker, your government considers these bills essential to the good conduct of government business and I want to recommend passage of each one of them. Mr. Speaker, before officially opening this session, I would like to take this opportunity to extend my sincere congratulations to the people of Nunavut who not only initialled the largest land claim in history, but successfully ratified the agreement only last week. All the people involved can be justifiably proud of a job well done.

---Applause

I would now like to commend you for your earnest consideration and wise judgement of business of this House as I declare open the 3rd Session of the 12th Assembly of the Northwest Territories. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Please be seated. Good afternoon. I would like to welcome all Members back to the Legislative Assembly this blustery, winter day. Item 2, Opening Address. I am sorry, that was Item 3, Ministers' Statements. Ms. Cournoyea.

**ITEM 3: MINISTERS' STATEMENTS**

Minister's Statement 001-12(3): Getting Down To Business

**HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA:**

Mr. Speaker, the reason we are here today is to begin a new session that has been scheduled to consider our 1993-94 capital estimates.

The estimates that will be placed before the House by the Minister of Finance were developed with the input of all communities in the Northwest Territories and Members of this Legislative Assembly.

They represent the new capital consultation process that the Legislative Assembly put in place earlier this year. By dealing with them at a dedicated fall session, we are providing northern businesses and contractors substantial lead time and certainty in which to conduct their planning for next year's construction season.

By taking this approach, projects can be planned well in advance so that the construction activity in any one year does not exceed what the local labour force can handle.

Mr. Speaker, new sessions in the past have been opened with a major statement or Throne Speech outlining government intentions in a number of important areas. I am departing from that tradition today because we have already spent considerable time during the past 12 months outlining our priorities and plans to change government in a way that makes more sense at both the territorial and community level.

It is time now to get down to business, but before doing that, I do want to acknowledge that a lot has happened since we were elected in this office a year ago.

The amount of change we have brought about during the first year of our term is substantial. The amount of effort and time we have put into the business of the House has been unprecedented.

Together, the government and the Legislature are making the kind of progress that is putting us in a much better position to respond to the special needs and priorities of northern residents including job creation, housing, social programs, education and training.

Faced with an extremely difficult financial climate and the need to cut back on expenditures we have also had our share of disagreement and some fairly pointed and controversial question periods. That is to be expected in any system of government, particularly in light of the tough choices that must

Page 2

be made and the genuine interest individual Members have in participating in the key decisions of government.

Mr. Speaker, during our first 12 months, the government and the Legislative Assembly have, among other things:

-Developed and begun implementation of a comprehensive plan that is making fundamental changes to the structure of government and the way it does business in the territory through a process of consolidation, decentralization, community transfers and privatization;

-Tackled an unprecedented financial deficit and targeted expenditures in a manner that will return the government to a balanced budget by the end of 1994;

-Developed new capital estimates and legislative processes that allow for greater public input; and

-Initiated substantial review processes into such key matters as the roles of boards and agencies and the way we deliver health and social service programs in the territory.

More recently, the Minister responsible for housing has prepared a new Home Ownership Program designed to assist residents in building and maintaining their homes.

In addition, the Minister of Personnel has finalized a long-term housing strategy that will make staff housing consistent with other government housing programs and encourage the development of private housing markets.

Members will be asked to consider both of these initiatives early in the current session.

Mr. Speaker, we have also had a few set-backs, particularly in the area of national constitutional reform. With the Charlottetown Agreement we were one step away from meeting the objectives of the Special Committee on Constitutional Reform, including the entrenchment of an inherent right to aboriginal self-government.

Canadians said "no" to the agreement. However, they have stated quite clearly since the vote that the results should not be viewed as a rejection of aboriginal concerns and northern aspirations.

In effect the territories have gained considerable public recognition and from now on it will be politically difficult to ignore our legitimate constitutional ambitions.

Whether many of those concerns, particularly aboriginal self-government at a national level, will be satisfied through constitutional or political accords is a matter of debate. Fortunately in the Northwest Territories the political climate is far different than it is in southern jurisdictions.

We can continue to make progress. For instance, the plebiscite last May produced an agreement on a boundary to divide the Northwest Territories; the signing of the Nunavut Political Accord and last week's overwhelming ratification of the Nunavut Land

Claim are a clear signal that major progress is possible.

In addition, the Gwich'in are in the final stages of having their regional claim and self-government framework proclaimed in federal legislation, we hope before the end of the year. The Sahtu have made progress on their regional claim and it looks like the Dogrib, Deh Cho and Treaty Eight First Nations will soon be making decisions on their approach to negotiating regional claims and self-government agreements.

Finally, during this session Members are scheduled to discuss the next step in the development of a constitution for a new western territory.

These, Mr. Speaker, are not small matters. Government and Members of the Legislature have supported them, while at the same time ensuring fiscal integrity and initiating fundamental changes to government structures and operations.

In conclusion, I stated earlier this year that decisions to carry out significant changes during the term of government would have to be made during the first 18 months of our term in order to meet government budget cycles and administrative capability.

Mr. Speaker, the nature of our session this month and the changes we have accomplished since last November indicate that we are on target. Thank you.

---Applause

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Item 3, Ministers' Statements. Mr. Pollard.

Minister's Statement 002-12(3): Budget Address

**HON. JOHN POLLARD:**

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I give notice that on Thursday, November 19, 1992, I will deliver the capital budget address. Thank you.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Item 3, Ministers' Statements. Item 4, Members' Statements. Mr. Ningark.

ITEM 4: MEMBERS' STATEMENTS

Member's Statement On Nunavut Land Claim Ratification

**MR. NINGARK:**

(Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. On November 3, 4 and 5 the Inuit of Nunavut voted on the ratification of their land claim. They were not only voting to accept the claim but were confirming yet again their desire to create a new territory above the tree line to be called Nunavut.

On behalf of the Nunavut Caucus I would like to state that we will work with the members of T.F.N. and their successor organization, Nunavut-Tungavik, with the Members of this Assembly and with the federal government towards an orderly and fair establishment of this new territory.

In the Nunavut Political Accord, which was signed in Iqaluit on October 30 by the T.F.N., the federal and territorial governments set out the process to be followed by the parties in splitting the Northwest Territories into its two new components. The Nunavut Caucus pledges to work towards an equitable distribution of the resources between the two territories. However, we will not be satisfied until sufficient resources are made available to the new Nunavut government in order for it to have a chance to survive and prosper. We believe that there is much to be done and to this end we encourage the early creation of the Nunavut Implementation Commission, whose task it will be to set the framework of the new eastern territory.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Mr. Ningark your allotted time has lapsed. Would you please turn on your microphone Mr. Ningark so the request can be on record.

**MR. NINGARK:**

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I and the rest of the Members of the Nunavut Caucus look forward with much anticipation...

Page 3

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Sorry Mr. Ningark. I missed your actual request for unanimous consent because your microphone was not turned on. Could you please seek unanimous consent and then conclude your statement.

**MR. NINGARK:**

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I seek unanimous consent to conclude my statement.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

The honourable Member is seeking unanimous consent. Are there any nays? There are no nays, please proceed Mr. Ningark.

**MR. NINGARK:**

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Thank you, my colleagues. I and the rest of the Nunavut Caucus look forward with much anticipation to the exciting days which lie ahead. As we work toward 1999 and the creation of Nunavut we realise that there will be much work for us all before the territory is established. As we strive towards this day we pledge to the western Members of this House that we will work cooperatively with you in order to demonstrate to the other region of the country that although we may split the territory in two, Mr. Speaker, we can still work together. We can put our individual agendas aside in order for the people of the Northwest Territories to benefit from new and better government in our homeland. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

---Applause

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Thank you, Mr. Ningark. Item 4, Members' Statements. Mr. Allooloo.

Member's Statement On The Nunavut Land Claim Ratification

**HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO:**

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It is with great pleasure and pride that I stand here today in this House to say congratulations to all Inuit of the Northwest Territories for the successful ratification of our land claim. I want to thank our Creator and everyone who has contributed to this accomplishment, including the T.F.N., the federal and territorial government negotiators, my fellow M.L.A.s and staff of all organizations of the governments involved and all of the Inuit who voted in favour of the agreement.

To those Inuit who did not vote or who voted against the agreement I want to say that now that the majority of our people have accepted this agreement we will all work very hard to ensure that your concerns are taken into consideration in the implementation process.

The Inuit have demonstrated with this ratification what can be achieved when native people work together. We encountered many stumbling blocks along the way but because of our unity we were able to overcome all of these difficulties to reach this point.

It was obvious from the results of the vote that people put aside their regional interests and voted for an agreement which brings us together as one people. Although a major step has been taken in the political development of Inuit, we are once again at the starting point. We have to work just as hard at the implementation stage. Many more Inuit will be involved in the process. I would like to say to our young people in Nunavut, you now have a brighter future to look forward to. You can look to creating your own form of government. You have many opportunities to play a vital role in determining your destiny. You now have a strong reason for completing your education, for becoming aware of the needs and desires of your people and for wanting to be involved in making government responsible to the people of Nunavut.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Mr. Allooloo, your allotted time has expired.

**HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO:**

I am seeking unanimous consent to conclude my statement.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

The honourable Member is seeking unanimous consent. Are there any nays? There are no nays, proceed Mr. Allooloo.

**HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO:**

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. To all the elders I would like to say that you can be proud of your young people for making your dream a reality. They will be looking to you for guidance in the development of new government and they will try very hard to incorporate the values that you have always tried to teach them, such as working together, sharing knowledge, being kind to one another and to look out for each other. You have taught us to welcome people from other places into our land and because of this we will be -- I just lost my line -- the government for all people in Nunavut. We will continue to benefit from the skills and knowledge of all those newcomers. You have taught us to be adaptable and to keep an open mind and for this I say thank you. We will try our best to

maintain the traditions that you have taught us. We will try to pass on those values and traditions to our young people as you have taught us. Thank you.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Members' Statements. Mr. Zoe.

Member's Statement On Nunavut Land Claim Ratification

**MR. ZOE:**

Mahsi, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate, on behalf of myself and the people who I represent in the North Slave region, the Tungavik Federation of Nunavut and all of the Inuit people of the Northwest Territories on the successful ratification of their land claim agreement with Canada. Mr. Speaker, for the Inuit people of the Northwest Territories this must surely be an historic and exciting time. I am fully confident that they will implement and administer their land claims in a manner that will guarantee the future of their people for generations to come. Mr. Speaker, as you are aware, the Dogrib Treaty II Council has a mandate to negotiate with the federal government on the land claim for the North Slave region. It is our hope that through tough negotiations and hard work, such as my Inuit colleagues have just accomplished, we will also be able to reach a land claim agreement with the Government of Canada that will guarantee the future of the Dogrib people. Mahsi.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Members' Statements. Mr. Antoine.

Member's Statement On Nunavut Land Claim Ratification

**MR. ANTOINE:**

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise today to congratulate the Inuit leadership and all the people of Nunavut on the result of their land claim vote. These results which were announced on November 12, 1992, indicated that 70 per cent of the eligible voters supported the land claim agreement. The negotiations and now the ratification of this important agreement with the Government of Canada has been a very significant accomplishment, Mr. Speaker. It required a major commitment from the elders, the community leadership, the T.F.N. and the Nunavut membership of this Legislative Assembly. Negotiating and ratifying a claim is a lot of work, but even more

work needs to be completed within the next seven years. As we move towards the establishment of Nunavut in 1999, I will be in this House for at least three of these seven years, Mr. Speaker. I will fully support the efforts of the honourable colleagues from Nunavut to work towards the realization of their goals. Likewise, I would hope that the honourable Members from the eastern and central Arctic will support us as we deal with issues surrounding the new constitutional changes which face us in the west. I believe

Page 4

that if we work together we will see the emergence of both a strong Nunavut and a strong western territory. (translation ends) Mahsi, Mr. Speaker.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Members' Statements. Mr. Todd.

Member's Statement On Creation of Nunavut

**MR. TODD:**

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Since today is the beginning of a new session, I think it is only appropriate that I rise to speak as others have done about the new beginning that the people of the eastern Arctic have embarked upon and the creation and establishment of Nunavut. Earlier this year, after the people of the Northwest Territories voted "yes" to the boundary for division of the Northwest Territories, I rose in this House to speak about the need for this government to re-evaluate the way its departments, boards and agencies deliver programs and planning for the creation of Nunavut. Today, just one week after the Inuit of Nunavut voted to ratify their land claim agreement with the federal government, I would like to speak once again about the important decisions that must be made in this House in planning for the eventual creation of Nunavut. It is readily apparent that the people have spoken with a full voice on this matter. They have accepted the historic land claim agreement with Canada and the establishment of a new territory with a public form of government to be known as Nunavut. It is our job and the job of the government to work in good faith with the matters leading to division. To that end it is important that the issues that face this government, such as the decentralization of government structures and the devolution of authority to regional and municipal governments, take place as quickly as possible. There should be no further excuses or delays in fully

implementing these policies. I want to ensure that the individual departments of this government take note of this important decision. This decision should be the single most important factor that all departments take into account when making future decisions on program delivery and operational and capital planning.

Finally, Mr. Speaker, I would like to quote an old proverb that says "from small beginnings come great things." I would like to congratulate all the people of Nunavut on their own small beginning. Thank you.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Members' Statements. Mr. Pudlat.

Member's Statement On Nunavut Land Claim Ratification

**MR. PUDLAT:**

(Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would also like to rise and make comments about the ratification. I will make my comments short. The M.L.A.s in Tungavik were working very hard before the ratification, travelling to the communities. We are past this stage of the ratification vote and we will have to start working for our northern people and our future generations. Now we know we have a good place in the future in Canada. I would also like to show my appreciation to the Tungavik Federation of Nunavut and the Ministers across the table. Although the ratification vote has passed, we will have to work together because we live in a different world. I would also like to thank you, Mr. Speaker, for giving me the opportunity to make my statement.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Item 4, Members' Statements. Ms. Mike.

Member's Statement On Nunavut Land Claim Ratification

**MS. MIKE:**

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Today I rise to show my pride for the Nunavut T.F.N. Board which has worked for many years for the successful ratification vote on November 3, 4, and 5 when the people of Nunavut came to the polls. I would like to thank the people of Nunavut for voting "yes." I would also like to thank my constituents of Baffin Central who had one of the highest turnouts at the polls, and my fellow M.L.A.s who have supported this great deal. I would like to

show my appreciation to them. This has been worked on for over 20 years. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Item 4, Members' Statements. Mr. Koe.

Member's Statement On Louis Riel Day And Metis People

**MR. KOE:**

Mr. Speaker, on November 16, 107 years ago a man named Louis Riel was hung after the Canadian Government, under the leadership of Prime Minister John A. MacDonald, determined that he was guilty of high treason. Treason means betrayal, breach of allegiance, treachery and disloyalty. It was not Riel who was disloyal or betrayed his country. While Riel had in good faith negotiated Manitoba's entry into Confederation, the government turned around and betrayed Riel by sending troops out to get rid of him and his provisional government. Louis Riel paid with his life for his leadership in a movement which fought for the maintenance and rights and freedoms of the Metis people. If Riel was guilty of anything it was only of trying to help his people defend their land, the principles of self-government and to fight against the status quo. Since his death, Metis have continued that struggle which Riel began. They continue to fight for the Metis culture and to fight against the status quo which would see that culture and heritage obliterated. Only recently has the struggle seen dividends. Mr. Speaker, in March of this year Louis Riel was officially recognized by the Parliament of Canada. The Metis people have also finally caught the attention of the Canadian Parliament. Metis have been involved in the constitutional process and their concerns have been acted upon. Had the national referendum results been positive, Metis would have been able to look forward of implementation of objectives such as self-government, equity of access and a place in Canadian society as first class aboriginal Canadians. As it is they will have to wait longer for these objectives to materialize. Mr. Speaker, I seek unanimous consent to continue my statement.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

The Member is seeking unanimous consent to continue. Are there any nays? There are no nays, proceed Mr. Koe.

**MR. KOE:**

Mahsi. Unfortunately, the national Constitution was rejected but there is no reason the territorial process cannot pick-up where the national process left off. The Canadian and provincial governments were prepared to recognize Metis rights. We believe that this government must do the same. Not just passively, but actively. The committee for a Constitution for a new western territory made many recommendations which would have given the Metis the recognition due to them. This government must work to ensure Metis are not being treated differently than other aboriginal people in the Northwest Territories. The Metis have often been referred to as Canada's forgotten people. It is imperative that this government take action to ensure that the Metis are forgotten no more. Mahsi Cho.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Item 4, Members' Statements. Mr. Kakfwi.

Member's Statement On National Addiction Awareness Week

**HON. STEPHEN KAKFWI:**

Mr. Speaker, on Sunday I was invited by my community of Fort Good Hope to start off the alcohol awareness week with them. I was very happy to do that. I wanted to say a few words about that amongst the other statements being made today. We all know that alcohol has

Page 5

had a tremendous impact on all of our people whether they are Dene or Metis, whether they are treaty or non-treaty, whether they are aboriginal or non-aboriginal people or whether they are Inuit or Inuvialuit. We all have had to deal with this problem. It does not matter whether we are men, women or children, whether we are rich or poor, whether we are workers or elected leaders. All of us have had to deal with the profound impact that alcohol has had on our people. Today I wanted to recognize all the work that has been done by the volunteers and the workers across the north over the past years and the achievements that they have made to deal and confront the problem of alcohol abuse. Also to recognize the support that all of us have given each other over the years to deal directly with this particular problem. In the end no matter what our dreams are, what great things we strive to achieve, all of us are in a fight to regain control. Not only of the north, of the land, of the political institutions, but our own very

personal and private affairs. It means that our fight is for control, not only of great things but of little things. I want to stand today to say that I appreciate the efforts being made by everyone across the north.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Item 4, Members' Statements. Mr. Arvaluk.

Member's Statement On Nunavut Land Claim Ratification

**HON. JAMES ARVALUK:**

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am very honoured today, Mr. Speaker. I would like to make a brief comment on the successful land claim vote held recently in the eastern Arctic. Almost 70 per cent of the eligible voters voted "yes" in favour of the land claim developed and negotiated for everyone by the T.F.N. (translation ends)

When I went to school, Mr. Speaker, I had to stay with my teacher because my parents were living at the outpost camp. My teacher encouraged me to visit the Hudson Bay manager so that I could learn different English accents. During my visit with the Hudson Bay manager to learn his accent, who was Scottish, a young boy of 14 came by dog team from his father's outpost camp to get tea, sugar and tobacco on credit to tide them over until they got more foxes to trade. Without saying anything or acknowledging his presence, although the Bay manager spoke Inuktitut fluently, he filled the tobacco can a quarter full with loose leaf tea and put some cigarette butts into a used envelope and ordered him in Inuktitut to leave for home. Although he had been travelling most of the day, he nodded his head to signal obedience and left to travel back to his camp, a journey that would take him most of the night. I then left his house with a lump in my throat and declared that I would study English very hard so that I could represent my people in determining our desired destiny. Mr. Speaker, that was as recent as the winter of 1960. With the successful ratification vote of the Nunavut land claims agreement, I feel ready and willing to work to make life more rewarding for people like that young man, who was 14, at the time.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Mr. Arvaluk, your allotted time has elapsed.

**HON. JAMES ARVALUK:**



Mr. Speaker, I seek unanimous consent to complete my statement.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

The honourable Member is seeking unanimous consent. Are there any nays? There are no nays. Please proceed, Mr. Arvaluk.

**HON. JAMES ARVALUK:**

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Thank you colleagues. Through the struggle to get the federal government to accept the reality of Inuit aspirations and their achievements, I feel we have come a long way since then.

(Translation) I recognize that many people who participated in this ratification. However, I would like to show my gratitude to the pioneers like Tagak Curley, who ran the Eskimo Association of Canada and who vocalized the issues for the Inuit Tapirisat of Canada; John Amagoalik, who never seemed to run out of ideas and strategic plans; Bob Kudloo and Allen Maksagak who stuck it out to the end. Also, I thank James Eekoolook and Louis Pilakapsi, who determined that the work we started must be completed, and my father, who kept reminding me that without the land claim settlement, the Inuit will always be asking for solutions instead of doing what is best for them. (Translation ends)

Answers are not going to be easy, but at least we will be in a position to answer the best we can.

Finally, Mr. Speaker, I am very happy and proud. It is a great moment for me in the long history of the Inuit people. I know that all Inuit will work together over the next decade to ensure that Nunavut becomes a unified and integral part of the Canadian political landscape. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Members' Statements. Mr. Patterson.

Member's Statement On Nunavut Land Claim Ratification

**HON. DENNIS PATTERSON:**

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise to congratulate the many people involved with the historic events in Nunavut in early November. I congratulate in particular the constituents I represent in Iqaluit for once again doing their duty as citizens to vote and

realize the long-held goal of Nunavut alongside the settlement of the Inuit land claim.

Mr. Speaker, this was my main motive for seeking public office in 1979, and the people of Iqaluit have been behind me ever since. It has been a long struggle since this Legislature agreed in principle to the division of the territories while sitting in Frobisher Bay in 1981. That resolution led to no less than three major public votes, each of which could have set back the process had they failed. Over each vote my constituents kept themselves informed, and they took those votes very seriously. The April 14, 1982 plebiscite on the principle of division was the closest of all. If it had not been for the very high turnout and very high "yes" votes in Iqaluit and other Nunavut constituencies, that plebiscite would not have succeeded.

Again, on May 4, 1992 it was the high turnouts and strong consensus which pushed the total votes over the top to "yes".

The final vote was November 3, 4 and 5, and although this vote was confined to Nunavut alone, there were still obstacles to overcome. First, according to the strict rules on this vote, an abstention was counted as a "no". There were other obstacles. The enumeration in Iqaluit was very poor. Many lifelong residents found themselves not on the list and there was no way they could be sworn in. Added to these challenges was a power failure in the middle of the voting which delayed the final day, and 65 to 80 kilometre winds in minus 20 degree temperatures on the final day. The Inuit...

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Mr. Patterson, your allotted time has elapsed.

**HON. DENNIS PATTERSON:**

May I have consent to proceed?

**MR. SPEAKER:**

The honourable Member is seeking unanimous consent. Are there any nays? There are no nays. Proceed please, Mr. Patterson.

Page 6

**HON. DENNIS PATTERSON:**

Thank you. The Inuit of Iqaluit came out once again and did their part and I am grateful to them for that.

Now those of us elected to positions of responsibility in the Tungavik Federation of Nunavut in this Legislature and the federal parliament must fulfil the trust placed in us to ensure that the claim is implemented fairly and smoothly, and that Nunavut is prepared for and planned for beginning immediately. A priority must be placed on training and on pre-implementing the Nunavut Implementation Commission.

In closing, Mr. Speaker, I would like to extend my sincere congratulations to all of the many people who have worked so hard over the years for this historic achievement. Qujannamiik.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Members' Statements. Mr. Dent.

Member's Statement On Nunavut Land Claim Ratification

**MR. DENT:**

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I also rise to day to add my congratulations to the residents of Nunavut on the ratification of their land claim. I know how long the people of the east have worked towards their goal of self-government, and I applaud their vision of a public government for all residents of Nunavut.

Mr. Speaker, the residents of Nunavut are just now about to start work on the real efforts of putting their government together and I wish them well with the process. I urge them to continue to be vigilant in their negotiations with the federal government to be sure they get a fair deal for the future.

Again, Mr. Speaker, my sincerest congratulations to the people of Nunavut.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Members' Statements. Mrs. Marie-Jewell.

Member's Statement Regarding Louis Riel And Metis People

**MRS. MARIE-JEWELL:**

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like today to recognize Louis Riel who died on November 16, 1885. Yesterday, Mr. Speaker, I am sure that many Metis in the Northwest Territories remembered to recognize one of the original leaders of the Metis Nation. I believe he should have taken his rightful

place in Canadian history as one of the Fathers of Confederation, for having negotiated Manitoba's entry into Confederation. Unfortunately, Mr. Speaker, the government of the day determined that this was not to be, so history books portray Riel as a traitor and instigator of rebellion instead of the proud and respected leader that he really was.

In the Northwest Territories it is obvious that the Metis Nation recognizes what Riel encountered for the Metis over 100 years today. Mr. Speaker, I applaud my colleagues in the House for wearing the Metis sashes today in recognition. Mr. Speaker, Louis Riel's vision was that the Metis people would be recognized as a full partner in the political development of this country. Slowly over the past century positive things have happened for the Metis. History is now being rewritten and retold by the Metis in their books, music and in their way of life. The Metis have had their fair share of disappointments most recently with the failure of the Charlottetown Accord. Perhaps, because of that failure, it is even more important that this government continue to work for and on behalf of the Metis of the Northwest Territories.

The territorial government can and must do more for the Metis. The Metis have been patient watching while other aboriginal groups gain recognition and substantial assets in various forms. The struggle will continue, and I call upon this government to assist the Metis of the Northwest Territories by providing them with the assistance and giving them the recognition to become a full partner in the social, economic and political development of the Northwest Territories. Thank you.

---Applause

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Item 4, Members' Statements. Item 5, Oral Questions. Item 6, Written Questions. Item 7, Petitions. Item 8, Reports of Standing and Special Committees. Item 9, Tabling of Documents. Mr. Kakfwi.

**ITEM 9: TABLING OF DOCUMENTS**

**HON. STEPHEN KAKFWI:**

Mr. Speaker, I would like to table three documents. The first one is Tabled Document 1-12(3) the Nunavut Political Accord. I also wish to table Tabled Document 2-12(3) "The Justice House", Report of the

Special Advisor on Gender Equality. I also wish to table Tabled Document 3-12(3) "Working Toward a Common Future", Report of the Commission for Constitutional Development. Thank you.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Item 9, Tabling of Documents. Mr. Ningark.

**MR. NINGARK:**

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to table the final results of the Tungavik Federation of Nunavut Ratification Vote, a land claim vote which was held on November 3, 4 and 5, 1992 and that is Tabled Document 04-12(2).

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Item 9, Tabling of Documents. Any more from the honourable Members? I wish to table Tabled Document 05-12(3) Comprehensive Audit of the Department of Health, prepared by the Auditor General for Canada.

Item 10, Notices of Motion. Item 11, Notices of Motions for First Reading of Bills. Mr. Pollard.

**ITEM 11: NOTICES OF MOTIONS FOR FIRST READING OF BILLS**

Bill 1: Appropriation Act, No. 1, 1993-94

**HON. JOHN POLLARD:**

Mr. Speaker, I give notice that on Thursday, November 19, 1992, I shall move that Bill 1, Appropriation Act, No. 1, 1993-94, will be read for the first time. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Item 11, Notices of Motions for First Reading of Bills. Mr. Kakfwi.

Bill 2: An Act To Amend The Condominium Act

**HON. STEPHEN KAKFWI:**

Mr. Speaker, I give notice that on Thursday, November 19, 1992, I shall move that Bill 2, an Act to Amend the Condominium Act, be read for the first time.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Item 11, Notices of Motions for First Reading of Bills. Mr. Kakfwi.

Bill 4: An Act To Amend The Public Trustee Act

**HON. STEPHEN KAKFWI:**

Mr. Speaker, I give notice that on Thursday, November 19, 1992, I shall move that Bill 4, an Act to Amend the Public Trustee Act, be read for the first time.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Item 11, Notices of Motion for First Reading of Bills. Mr. Patterson.

Page 7

Bill 5: An Act To Amend The Social Assistance Act

**HON. DENNIS PATTERSON:**

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I give notice that on Thursday, November 19, 1992, I shall move that Bill 5, An Act to Amend the Social Assistance Act, be read for the first time. Thank you.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Item 11, Notices of Motions for First Reading of Bills. Item 12, Motions. Item 13, First Reading of Bills. Item 14, Second Reading of Bills. Mr. Clerk, Item 15, Orders of the Day.

**ITEM 15: ORDERS OF THE DAY**

**CLERK OF THE HOUSE (Mr. Hamilton):**

Mr. Speaker, there will be a meeting of the Nunavut Caucus at 3:30 p.m. this afternoon, and a meeting of the Western Caucus at 3:30 p.m. this afternoon. Meetings for tomorrow morning at 9:00 a.m. of the Standing Committee on Legislation and at 10:30 of the Ordinary Members' Caucus.

Orders of the Day for Wednesday, November 18:

1. Prayer
2. Ministers' Statements
3. Members' Statements
4. Return to Oral Questions
5. Oral Questions

6. Written Questions
7. Returns to Written Questions
8. Replies to Opening Address
9. Petitions
10. Reports of Standing and Special Committees
11. Reports of Committees on the Review of Bills
12. Tabling of Documents
13. Notices of Motion
14. Notices of Motions for First Reading of Bills
15. Motions
16. First Reading of Bills
17. Second Reading of Bills
18. Consideration in Committee of the Whole of Bills and Other Matters
19. Report of the Committee of the Whole
20. Third Reading of Bills
21. Orders of the Day

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Thank you, Mr. Clerk. This House stands adjourned until 1:30 p.m., Wednesday, November 18, 1992.

---ADJOURNMENT